

Atty. Dkt. No. 047912-0139

Amendments to the Claims:

Claim 1 is requested to be cancelled.

Claims 2-10 are currently being amended.

Claims 11-13 are being added.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:
Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) A face alignment device according to claim 1 further comprising ~~an air layer forming means for forming an air layer between each of the semi-spherical surfaces of the convex semi-spherical blocks and each of the concave portions of the base blocks; and a moving means for moving the two first base blocks and the second base block to be close to or apart from each other.~~
3. (Currently Amended) A face alignment device comprising two units that are each provided with:
a convex semi-spherical block having a contact surface that makes contact with a clamping element for securing an object and a convex semi-spherical surface on the opposite side of the contact surface; and
a base block having a concave portion corresponding to the semi-spherical surface of the convex semi-spherical block for rotatably holding the convex semi-spherical block,
wherein the two units are arranged such that their contact surfaces face each other, and
A face alignment device according to claim 1, wherein the clamping member element
is provided with a bearing so that it can rotatably hold the object.
4. (Currently Amended) A face alignment device comprising:
a) two units that are each provided with:
i) a convex semi-spherical block having a contact surface that makes contact with a clamping element for securing an object and a convex semi-spherical surface on the opposite side of the contact surface; and
ii) a base block having a concave portion corresponding to the semi-spherical surface of the convex semi-spherical block for rotatably holding the convex semi-spherical block; and

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b) an air layer forming means for forming an air layer between each of the semi-spherical surfaces of the convex semi-spherical blocks and each of the concave portions of the base blocks; and

c) a moving means for moving the two base blocks to be close to or apart from each other,

wherein the two units are arranged such that their contact surfaces face each other, and
A face alignment device according to claim 2, wherein the clamping member element
is provided with a bearing so that it can rotatably hold the object.

5. (Currently Amended) A face alignment device according to claim 11,
wherein the object is held outside the two units in an area between the first convex semi-spherical block and the second convex semi-spherical block by the clamping member element,
wherein a face that is to be aligned of the object extends out of the clamping element,
and
while wherein a weight is provided at the other end of the clamping member element
opposite to the object.

6. (Currently Amended) A face alignment device according to claim 2,
wherein the object is held outside the two units in an area between the first convex semi-spherical block and the second convex semi-spherical block by the clamping member element,
wherein a face that is to be aligned of the object extends out of the clamping element,
and
while wherein a weight is provided at the other end of the clamping member element
opposite to the object.

7. (Currently Amended) A face alignment device according to claim 3, wherein the object is held outside the two units by the clamping member element, while a weight is provided at the other end of the clamping member element opposite to the object.

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8. (Currently Amended) A face alignment device according to claim 4, wherein the object is held outside the two units by the clamping member/element, while a weight is provided at the other end of the clamping member/element opposite to the object.

9. (Currently Amended) A face alignment method, comprising:

arranging two units, which are each provided with a convex semi-spherical block having a contact surface that makes contact with a clamping member/element for securing an object and a convex semi-spherical surface on the opposite side of the contact surface, and a base block having a concave portion corresponding to the semi-spherical surface of the convex semi-spherical block for rotatably holding the convex semi-spherical block, such that the contact surfaces of the two units face each other; and

securing one of the objects with the clamping member/element,

wherein the clamping member/element is arranged to make contact with the contact surfaces of the two units at an eccentric positions from the center axes of the convex semi-spherical blocks of the two units.

10. (Currently Amended) A face alignment method, comprising:

arranging two units, which are each provided with a convex semi-spherical block having a contact surface that makes contact with a first clamping member/element for securing an first object and a convex semi-spherical surface on the opposite side of the contact surface, and a base block having a concave portion corresponding to the semi-spherical surface of the convex semi-spherical block for rotatably holding the convex semi-spherical block, such that the contact surfaces of the two units face each other; and

securing one of the second objects with the second clamping member/element that does not make contact with the contact surfaces of the convex semi-spherical blocks of the two units,

wherein the faces of the objects are aligned while the first clamping member/element is arranged to make contact with the contact surfaces of the units such that the center point of the face of one of the first objects corresponds to a center point of an imaginary sphere formed by the facing semi-spherical surfaces of the convex semi-spherical blocks.

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11. (New) A face alignment device comprising:
- a first convex semi-spherical block having a first contact surface and a first convex semi-spherical surface on the opposite side of the first contact surface;
 - a second convex semi-spherical block having a second contact surface and a second convex semi-spherical surface on the opposite side of the second contact surface;
 - a first base block having a first concave portion corresponding to the first convex semi-spherical surface of the first convex semi-spherical block for rotatably holding the first convex semi-spherical block;
 - a second base block having a second concave portion corresponding to the second convex semi-spherical surface of the second convex semi-spherical block for rotatably holding the second convex semi-spherical block;
 - a clamping element making contact with the first contact surface and the second contact surface at an eccentric position from the center axes of the first and second convex semi-spherical blocks for securing an object; and
 - an air layer forming means for forming an air layer between the first convex semi-spherical surface of the first convex semi-spherical block and the first concave portion of the first base block and between the second convex semi-spherical surface of the second convex semi-spherical block and the second concave portion of the second base block;
- wherein the first convex semi-spherical block and the second convex semi-spherical block are arranged such that the first contact surface faces the second contact surface.
12. (New) A face alignment device according to claim 11, wherein the clamping element is provided with a bearing so that it can rotatably hold the object.
13. (New) A face alignment device according to claim 11, wherein the clamping element comprises a clamp member and a clamp base.

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